



Department of Justice

**United States Attorney Timothy M. Morrison
Southern District of Indiana**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, September 16, 2009
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/ins/>

CONTACT: MARY BIPPUS
(317) 229-2403
Fax: (317) 226-5002
Cell: (317) 590-7928

CARMEL MAN CHARGED WITH PRODUCTION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

PRESS RELEASE

Indianapolis- Andrew Jay McGrath, 30, Carmel, Indiana was charged late yesterday by criminal complaint with Sexual Exploitation of Children for producing child pornography announced Timothy M. Morrison, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana. This was a result of an investigation by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the Carmel Police Department, the Fishers Police Department and the Hamilton County Metro Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. All these groups are part of the Indiana Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) organization. The investigation continues and persons who believe they may have information relevant to this investigation are asked to call Special Agent Michael Johnson at 317-248-4151 ext 126.

The complaint alleges that on two separate dates, May 23, 2009, and August 23, 2009, Andrew Jay McGrath produced visual depictions of a minor female who was less than five (5) years of age engaging in sexually explicit conduct, and produced these visual depictions using electronic media. Law enforcement agents discovered these images during a search of McGrath's computer.

"ICE is committed to protecting children from anyone who would sexually abuse and exploit them" said Homeland Security Assistant Secretary for ICE John Morton. "We will use all our investigative authorities to give these abused children a voice and ensure that justice is served."

According to Assistant United States Attorney A. Brant Cook, who is prosecuting the case for the government, McGrath faces a maximum possible prison sentence of 30 years on each count, which could be run consecutively to one another, and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000 on each count. McGrath is currently in custody. A preliminary and detention hearing is scheduled before a Magistrate Judge in Indianapolis at 1:00 p.m. on Friday.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

A complaint is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial at which the government must prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

20090916.McGrath.ce.wpd